



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


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GOVERNOR

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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 30, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Education

From: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

Subject: Presentation on the Status of Implementing Standards for the Preparation of School Counselors

In June 2010 the State Board of Education (SBE) approved the Standards for Preparation of School Counselors. The standards are online at http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_6368-24835--,00.html. These standards are comprehensive and aligned with the American School Counselor Association's National Model, which supports the school's overall mission by promoting academic achievement, career planning and personal/social development. They were developed with significant input from stakeholders in K-12 and post-secondary education and were also released for public comment.

For context, the Standards for the Preparation of School Counselors consist of five content standards that include:

- completion of coursework
- understanding of necessary leadership skills
- understanding use of technology in comprehensive guidance and counseling
- completion of 30 graduate hours
- completion of supervised clinical experiences.

Within these five standards are forty-one sub-standards. Three of the five major standards and fourteen of the forty-one sub-standards address the knowledge and skills necessary for career and college planning (see Attachment 1 for those sub-standards).

As part of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) process in implementing these standards, staff is currently working with the vendor Evaluation Systems to conduct a content validation survey as a part of the process to develop the new Michigan Test for Teacher Certification school counselor content examination. The content validation survey has been disseminated to K-12 school district professional personnel, school counselors, and college and university representatives. Results are expected to be reviewed in April and be used in test development over the next year. The new content test will be available in 2013.

The Office of Professional Preparation Staff (OPPS) staff will present a status report on the implementation of the Standards for School Counselor Preparation.

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School Counselor Standards Related to Career and College Planning

Number	
1.0	Completion of coursework pursuant to section 1233(2) of 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1233(2)(b), enabling a candidate to:
1.1.2	Articulate the role, function, and professional identity of the school counselor in relation to the roles of other professional and support personnel in the school, and caregivers in the home and in the community to facilitate successful student development and achievement of all students (in accordance with the SBE Universal Education Vision and Principles);
1.1.5	Advocate for all students (in accordance with the SBE Universal Education Vision and Principles) and for effective school counseling programs;
1.1.6	Integrate developmental guidance curriculum into the total school curriculum to assist Pre K-12 students in maximizing their academic, career, and personal/social development.
1.3	Understand vocational development theory, educational and occupational information for providing guidance information (MCL 380.1233(2)(1)(i)(C)), including the ability to:
1.3.1	Describe career development theories;
1.3.2	Engage in career development program planning, implementation, and evaluation;
1.3.3	Conduct career and educational planning, including post-secondary options such as college selection and school-to-work transitions; and
1.3.4	Apply knowledge of the role of diversity as it relates to educational and career planning.
1.4.1	Utilize individual and small group counseling approaches that promote school success through academic, career, and personal/social development;
1.5.2	Analyze and use data to improve student outcomes;
3.0	Understand technology in comprehensive guidance and counseling programs, including the ability to use technology to:
3.1	Facilitate career development and exploration activities with students;
3.2	Collect and analyze data related to student success
5.0	Completion of supervised clinical experiences (MCL 380.1233(2)(a)(i)(F), involving direct client contact:
5.1	For Preliminary Employment Authorization for School Counselor: Practicum supervised by credentialed school counselor or school counselor educator—100 clock hours, at least 40 of which must involve direct client contact; or
5.2	For NT Endorsement and School Counselor License programs: Internship supervised by credentialed school counselor or school counselor educator—600 clock hours, at least 300 of which must be in the school setting.